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FOOD

INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

May 27, 1944

No. 60

FARM LABOR--VICTORY GARDENS--CANNING

While the OWI food report issued May 25 indicates that most foods will be plentiful for the next few months, it also points out that civilian supplies of canned fruits and vegetables will be low for the coming year. It states that food supplies for the coming winter and later will depend to a large extent on the efforts of farmers, Victory Gardeners, and home canners during the present growing season. The report urges that more emphasis than ever be given to these facts:

Four million volunteer workers are needed to help out the farmers this year until the harvest is in. Farm labor needs are based on farm production goals, and the goals still call for the largest crops ever planted and record-breaking numbers of live-stock sent to market. Farm population is at the 30-year low, and those remaining on farms need every bit of help they can get. Some 750,000 volunteers are needed to do part-time work in canneries this year to process foods our armed forces, civilians, and Lend-Lease will need.

Twenty-two million Victory Gardens must be seen through to harvest. These gardens last year prevented a shortage of fresh vegetables and made possible lower point values on canned vegetables. They can play an equally important role this year in preventing a shortage of canned vegetables.

More fruits and vegetables must be canned at home this year. The present supplies in most homes will have disappeared by late summer, and the amount of canned goods civilians have this fall and winter will depend largely on what they do in their gardens and kitchens this summer. In 1944-45 the civilian supply of commercially canned goods will be the shortest in years. Non-civilian takings will be the largest ever. There's food for thought in these thoughts about food.

SECRETARY WICKARD will talk for 8 minutes about the general food situation over the Blue Network, June 2 at 8:00 a.m. (EWT) on the Martin Agronsky news program. On June 5 he will give the commencement address at Otterbein College, Westerville, Ohio. His subject will be "The Graduate's Responsibilities."

GROW MORE TOMATOES WFA, in a fact sheet soon to be released, urges Victory Gardeners to grow more tomatoes, especially for home canning, to offset an anticipated deficiency of Vitamin "C" in the average civilian diet this fall. Wartime demands on the 1944 commercial pack of tomatoes and tomato juice will leave an inadequate supply for civilian use, WFA points out. The possible danger months are October and November, the "in-between" period after supplies are gone from the market and before the new citrus crop becomes available.

--- NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR ---
Monday, May 29, through Monday, June 5

- MONDAY - Regular F. & H. Hour cancelled for special pickup by Blue Network.
- TUESDAY - Farm Production Report to the Nation No. 8, North Dakota. E. J. Haslerud, Ext. Director; P.J. Kettwig, State AAA Chairman; Mr. and Mrs. R.V. Powers and four children from Durbin in Cass County.
- WEDNESDAY - (ET) Wm. L. Teutsch, Ass't. Director of Extension for Oregon State College; Harold Rumbaugh, Benton County, Oregon, farmer; Ralph Beck, State Emergency Labor Supervisor, - "Oregon Recruits Farm Labor."
- THURSDAY - Dr. Hazel K. Stiebeling, Chief, BEN&HE - "A Nutritionist Looks Ahead."
- FRIDAY - Victory Gardens - "June Jobs in the Victory Garden" - Ernest Moore and Duke DuMars.
- MONDAY - Farm Production Report to the Nation No. 9, from Iowa.

Note:--As of June 19, 1944, the National Farm and Home Hour as it is now organized will be discontinued by the Blue Network. The name of the program has been changed to "The Homesteaders" Monday through Friday and will include, for the time being at least, the present features of the Farm and Home Hour except that the Department's portion will be discontinued on these days. The Saturday program will be continued with the present format under the name of the National Farm and Home Hour with 10 to 12 minutes available to the Department and War Food Administration for farm and home information. The National Farm and Home Hour has been on the air continuously since October 2, 1928, when it was established as a cooperative undertaking between the National Broadcasting Company and the Department of Agriculture as a public service.

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VICTORY FARM VOLUNTEERS Irvin Schmitt of Extension Service will talk for 3 minutes about Victory Farm Volunteers on Servel's "Fashions in Rations" program (CBS), Saturday June 3, at 11:30 a.m., EWT.

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AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION May 20, the President approved a bill to continue the availability of approximately \$12,000,000 for loans and grants to farmers who have incurred damages from floods and windstorms . . . May 24, the House passed a bill to continue the 3 1/2 interest rate on Land Bank Commissioner loans until July 1, 1944, and to provide for a 4% rate for 1 year thereafter. The bill now goes to the Senate . . . May 24, Chairman Fulmer of the House Agriculture Committee introduced a bill to continue the crop insurance program on a modified basis . . . May 26, Conferees reported the Pace Bill, providing substantive law for various items in Agricultural Appropriation Act, including continuation of the school-lunch program for 2 years and continuation of FSA's rehabilitation program for 1 year.

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DEFENSE COUNCIL COOPERATION In Los Angeles, Civilian Defense volunteers prepared 6,908 packages of egg posters for grocery stores to assist WFA in moving abundant supplies of eggs.

IMPORTANT USDA RELEASES Canada Expects Increased Wheat Acreage--2349-44;
Truck Crops for Commercial Processing--Progress of
Planting and Conditions--2352-44; Farm Machinery Distribution Order for 1944-45--
2354-44; Milkweed Floss to be Collected for War Uses--2355-44.

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OTHER IMPORTANT RELEASES Ceiling Prices for 1944 Early White Potatoes--
OPA-4326; Dollars-and-Cents Ceiling Prices Estab-
lished on Certain Cheeses--OPA-4327 and 4329; Rough Rice Regulation Amended--OPA-T-
2107; Specific Maximum Prices for all Types of Wheat Sales--OPA-4321; Invoicing
Sales of Live Hogs--OPA-4337; Special Gasoline Rations for Spare-time Laborers on
Farms and in Food Processing Plants--OPA-4341; Nation-wide campaign to step up OPA's
price control program--OPA-4330.

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CHICAGO CONTAINER DRIVE 300,000 pupils in Chicago's 340 elementary schools
recently salvaged 400,000 used containers - baskets,
hampers, lugs, flat wooden boxes, apple and peach boxes, burlap and cotton bags, and
shipping barrels. They were paid by used container dealers in war stamps at the
rate of 5 cents for every container turned in. The drive was sponsored by the Board
of Education, Used Container Industry Committee of WEA and the Illinois State Super-
visor of The Office of Distribution, WEA.

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MAIN STREET MARKET Atlanta, Ga., OD Office deserves credit for an excellent
job of outlining the food situation in a recent radio
program called Main Street Market. In easy conversational style it told which foods
are plentiful now, the reasons why we don't dare be complacent about the future, and
the need for continued effort on Victory Gardens, home canning, etc., to assure
future supplies.

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EARLY IN JUNE there will be issued a 16-page, illustrated leaflet entitled "Home
Canning of Fruits and Vegetables" --AWI-93; also a food-conservation
poster called "Lick the Platter Clean."

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MORE PASTURE The current feed situation indicates a need
for better care and greater utilization of pasture. A
background statement on fertilizers and pasture management is on the way.

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FARM SAFETY WEEK A fact sheet explaining the need and ways to prevent
accidents on farms, in connection with National Farm
Safety Week (week beginning July 23), will be out soon.

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HOME STORAGE OF EGGS was effectively brought to the attention of housewives of
Wisconsin recently through a special illustrated circular
issued by the Extension Service College of Agriculture, University of Wisconsin.
Four methods of preserving eggs are prescribed: the waterglass method, the lime
method, the oil and grease method, and freezing.

